

**Certificate of Need Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
March 16, 2006
Meeting Minutes**

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
PRESENT**

Jody Corona
Donna Goodwin
Jean Pfiefer
Palmer Pollock
Gil Rodriguez, MD
Sim Rubenstein, MD
Sue Sharpe

Cynthia Forland
Tom Granger
Lisa Jeremiah
Jerry Kaufman
Gail McGaffick
Rob Menaul
Scott Plack
David Weber

Telephone: Edith Rice
Robin Appleforth

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
ABSENT**

Scott Faringer
Bill Hagens
Ele Hamburger
Debra Hatfield
Michael Kelly, MD
Jon Smiley

RESOURCE EXPERTS

Bart Eggen, DOH
Irene Owens, DOH
Marcia Rohlik, RN, MN, Mason General Hospital
Jeanette Zaichkin, RN MN, DOH
Via Telephone:
Phil Lund, MD, past president WA State Radiology Society

INTERESTED PUBLIC PARTIES

Stacey Baker
Jane Beyer
Chris Blake
John Bowden
James Curry

STAFF PRESENT

Nancy L. Fisher, MD, MPH, HCA
Gary Fugere, HCA
Linda Glaeser, RN, HCA
Pat Maley
Tom Piper, Consultant
Beverly Skinner, HCA

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Topic	Discussion/Decision	Follow-up
Welcome and Introductions Agenda Review Minutes Review Announcements	All present introduced themselves. The agenda was reviewed. The minutes approved as written. Reminder: Final report from TF will be presented to Legislature by 11/06. As the report is considered in the '07 Legislative session, members may be asked to assist in presentation and subsequent discussions.	
Request from Task Force (TF) related to CON Purpose Statement	The TF requested the addition of the concept of balancing the elements to the purpose statement. From the March 14 Worksheet the TAC decided on Item IV, with minor clarifications, to be incorporated into the Purpose Statement. Licensure was identified as a potential link for balancing the pieces as well as monitoring for compliance.	Subgroup: Jody Corona, Palmer Pollock, and Sue Sharp to do final prep before presentation to TF 3/29/06. The next TAC meeting will include a discussion on monitoring and compliance.
Review of Project Purpose and Guiding Principles	The guiding principles as set forth in ESSHB 1688 were reviewed. The TAC will proceed from the base idea that the services and facilities currently subject to CON would remain subject to CON. Support of health system infrastructure was identified as a component that needs to be part of the CON review process.	This will be the background framework for considerations forwarded to TF for potential incorporation into their final recommendations.
Discussion continued from 2/16/06 Selection of Reviewable Services	Review of remodels not viewed as value added. The <i>Expansion</i> column definition to include increase of bed capacity beyond current license as well as relocation. The <i>New</i> column definition to mean brand new.	Remove <i>Replacement</i> column on the Worksheet form.

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	<p>Resource Experts addressed questions related to advances in technology, existing standards, patient safety concerns, volume implications, equipment cost, etc.</p> <p>Other concerns discussed included issues related to transfer of ownership after granting of CON, non-profit versus for-profit status.</p> <p>Qualifiers or additional concerns/considerations related to final Worksheet should be forward to the TF.</p>	<p>Additional considerations from individual members to be forwarded to staff for incorporation into revised Worksheet for presentation to TF.</p> <p>See revised Worksheet. To be presented to TF 3/29/06.</p>
<p>Additional Considerations: Perspectives from Other States</p>	<p>Tom Piper shared observations on elements that impact how CON is executed in other states.</p> <p>Sound planning principles should be foundational to a CON process.</p> <p>Some areas are/will be politically charged, i.e, Ambulatory Surgery, Imaging, Radiation Therapy, and Emerging Technologies.</p> <p>Use of experts/research in development of criteria indicated.</p> <p>CON is a component of a larger process/picture.</p>	

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	<p>CON process requires such things as: plan, data systems, staff/resources for technical reviews, and updated service specific review criteria.</p> <p>Identified needs of WA process included: more clarity in the rules, clear guidance related to criteria, consistent/more complete data, monitoring and compliance enforcement.</p> <p>Improved connection to licensure identified as potential aspect to compliance monitoring for WA.</p> <p>The JLARC study of the current WA process due 7/1/06.</p>	
Discussion: Other Review Factors	<p><u>Urban vs. Rural</u> DOH does not have a clear definition of urban or rural, it is not in rule. There should be one standard but exception of rural hospitals/agencies may be indicated for specific criteria.</p> <p><u>Service area designation</u> Defined in WAC, the applicant does not define the service area. No recommendation to change from current rule.</p> <p><u>Sale, Purchase or Lease</u> Currently applied to hospitals only – adopted in rule, the RCW says health care facilities.</p> <p>Review/regulation for purchase of a non profit by a for-profit exists.</p> <p>Change of ownership should have some type of review.</p> <p><u>Financial Thresholds</u></p>	Staff to consult with DSHS to

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	<p>Since financial thresholds can become a avenue for “gaming” to avoid review, recommend no thresholds. \$1.5 million threshold for Nursing Home renovations is the only current financial threshold; utilized in reimbursement formula. Need to determine impact if would remove.</p>	<p>determine potential impact of removing financial threshold for nursing home renovation.</p> <p>Members to submit additional comments/thoughts to project management staff.</p>
<p>Discussion: Template for Service and Facility Specific Policies</p>	<p>Using Discussion Template, questions addressed included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How should the process of decision-making be conducted? 2. Who should be the CON decision-makers? 3. What factors should be considered in making the decision? <p>Three items on Worksheet yet to be discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When are decision-making timeframes and what are the related considerations? 2. Where are the venues and methods for decision-making? 3. Why are decisions made, including rationale and impact? 	<p>Hold this discussion at 4/13/06 meeting.</p> <p>See TAC 3/16/06 Discussion Summary of Template for Service and Facility Specific Policies. To be presented to TF 3/29/06.</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>Stacy Baker, representing Representative Bailey, commented that a better understanding of how services are put on the list for review is needed.</p> <p>Rob Menaul said he would like attention to be brought to the issue of the financial accessibility to all residents, along with other accessibility issues, such as taking Medicare and Medicaid patients.</p>	

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Meeting Wrap-up	Next TAC meeting: April 13. The main topic will be compliance monitoring.	
Adjourn	5:00 pm	